

REMARKS

Claims 28, 31-41, 44, 45, and 47 are pending. Claim 45 is currently amended. All other claims through Claim 46 are cancelled.

Claim 45 is currently amended without prejudice to include the limitation that the pressure sensitive adhesive is applied atop the primer prior to being crosslinked. Support for this amendment may be found on p. 11, line 28 to p. 12, line 1.

Currently amended claim 45 is believed to be patentable because, at the very least, not one of the references that has been cited teaches or even suggests that a pressure sensitive adhesive is applied atop a primer prior to being crosslinked. Thus, a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be established using the references or any combinations thereof.

Claims 28, 31, 37-41, 44, 45 and 47 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babu et al. (WO 93/11184) in view of Davison (US 3,970,771) and Bragole (US 4,859,540). Claim 45 has been amended as described above, thus the rejection with respect to claim 45 is considered moot. Claims 28, 31, 37-41, 44 and 47 depend from amended claim 45, thus the rejection with respect to these claims is considered moot.

Claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babu et al. (WO 93/11184) in view of Davison (US 3,970,771) and Bragole (US 4,859,540) as applied to claim 45 above, and further in view of Mori et al. (US 5,037,885). Claims 32 and 33 depend from amended claim 45, thus this rejection is considered moot.

Claims 34-36 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babu et al. (WO 93/11184) in view of Davison (US 3,970,771) and Bragole (US 4,859,540) as applied to claim 45 above, and further in view of Groves (US 5,677,376). Claims 34-36 depend from amended claim 45, thus this rejection is considered moot.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

March 30, 2009
Date

By: /Elizabeth A. Gallo/
Elizabeth A. Gallo, Ph.D., Reg. No.: 51,716
Telephone No.: 651-733-9608

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833